



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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February 14, 2014

Michael Grayum, Executive Director  
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission  
6730 Martin Way East  
Olympia, WA 98516

RE: Status of Human Health Criteria Rulemaking Effort

Dear Mr. Grayum:

I am writing in response to your letter of January 31, 2014, requesting that the Department of Ecology (Ecology) provide an updated timeline for completing the rulemaking to establish human health criteria in the state's water quality standards.

As you know, Ecology has been working diligently to gather input, evaluate options, and develop the draft rule. As noted in your letter, we have been providing an estimated schedule to have a draft rule prepared this winter and a final rule submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) by the end of this year. We are currently on track to meet those timeframes. Ecology plans to have a draft rule available by the end of March 2014, and a final rule submitted to EPA by December 31, 2014.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your efforts to provide input on the rulemaking process to date. As you know, much hard work remains, but Ecology is making significant strides to complete the rule. I look forward to your continued engagement in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Maia D. Bellon", followed by a long horizontal line.

Maia D. Bellon  
Director

cc: Chairman Brian Cladoosby, Swinomish Tribe  
JT Austin, Governor's office  
Rob Duff, Governor's office